

name therefore falls as a synonym; the second species, *A. dejeani*, Fst., does not appear to agree with any of the species dealt with in my paper.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE VII.

- Fig. 1. *Alcides crinalifer*, sp. n.
 Fig. 2. — *habenatus*, sp. n.
 Fig. 3. — *loratus*, sp. n.
 Fig. 4. — *pyrifer*, sp. n.
 Fig. 5. — *jugalis*, sp. n.
 Fig. 6. — *stevensi*, sp. n.
 Fig. 7. — *subsellatus*, sp. n.
 Fig. 8. — *arcicollis*, sp. n.
 Fig. 9. — *bryanti*, sp. n.
 Fig. 10. — *trigonophorus*, sp. n.
 Fig. 11. — *vitalisi*, sp. n.

L.—On the Names of certain Parrots of the Genus *Larius*,
 Bodd.=*Eclectus*, Wagl. By Lord ROTHSCHILD, F.R.S.

THE genus *Eclectus* has always excited much discussion, chiefly due to the extraordinary sexual dimorphism. Mr. Gregory M. Mathews has proved that the name *Larius*, Bodd., has priority over Wagler's *Eclectus*, but ignores the "International Rule" which only allows names to be corrected by the author himself, and then ONLY in the same work in which he gave the name, and alters it to *Lorius*.

Count Salvadori, in the 'Catalogue of Birds,' enumerates six "species," as follows:—*pectoralis*, P. L. S. Müller; *roratus*, P. L. S. Müller; *cardinalis*, Bodd.; *riedeli*, Meyer; *cornelia*, Bp.; and *westermanni*, Bp.

Of these, *riedeli* and *cornelia* do not concern the present question at all, as the ♀♀ are entirely crimson-scarlet on upper and under side, and, although the ♀ of *westermanni* is very close to the two Moluccan forms, the ♂ has green flanks, and therefore this form also is outside our present problem.

Count Salvadori has used Philip Stadius Müller's names for the New Guinea and North Moluccan forms, and it is a great pity that his names have been adopted by ornithologists, as the whole work is a compilation, and in many cases the descriptions are extremely doubtful and in others (as in the present instance) the names are founded on figures of older authors who give impossible or extremely doubtful localities. As, however, P. L. S. Müller's names are accepted by the larger number of ornithologists, I do not feel justified in over-throwing the name *roratus*, which is the chief crux in this

question. Having said this, however, I must point out that it has been applied to the wrong bird. P. L. S. Müller gave the name to the "Purpur-roode Lori" of Vosmaer (Mon. p. 10, t. vii., 1769), and Vosmaer states that his bird came from Ceylon! P. L. S. Müller, however, says "Amboina. Vosmaer." Now Count Salvadori applies the name *roratus* to the North Moluccan form, which comes from Batchian, Ternate, and Halmahera, and adopts *cardinalis*, Bodd., for the South Moluccan bird, from Amboina, Ceram, and Bouru. Although P. L. S. Müller's description of *roratus* fits both Moluccan forms, it is clear that it cannot by any possible means be made to fit the New Guinea form. Therefore, the question before us is to which of the two Moluccan forms must the name be applied; it is quite clear that P. L. S. Müller has applied the name *roratus* to Vosmaer's bird, which was stated to have come from Ceylon, and arbitrarily or from private conviction assigned the locality Amboina to it. As, however, all the older authors have assigned fantastic localities (Ceylon, China, Amazon River, &c.) to the birds of this genus, if we use the name *roratus* at all it must be applied to the bird from the locality stated by its author. Count Salvadori, therefore, could under no circumstances apply it to the North Moluccan bird; the only two courses open to him were either to reject the name altogether or to apply it to the bird from Amboina as done by its author. Now, the result of this is that the North Moluccan bird is without a name, and I propose for it the name of *vosmaeri*, nom. nov. As the whole of the forms of this genus replace one another in their respective localities, I look upon the genus *Larius* as consisting of one species, with nine subspecies, as follows:—

- Larius roratus roratus*, P. L. S. Müll. South Moluccas.
 ——— *vosmaeri*, Rothsch. North Moluccas.
 ——— *westermanni*, Bp. ?
 ——— *pectoralis*, P. L. S. Müll. New Guinea and adjoining islands.
 ——— *aruensis*, G. R. Gray. Aru Islands.
 ——— *solomonensis*, Rothsch. & Hart. Solomons and New Britain Archipelago.
 ——— *macgillivrayi*, Math. N. Queensland.
 ——— *riedeli*, Mey. Timor Laut Islands.
 ——— *cornelia*, Bp. Sumba.

If it is considered that P. L. S. Müller's name of *pectoralis* is inadmissible, as applying to Moluccan rather than Papuan birds, the name of *roratus polychloros*, Scop., must be used for the Papuan subspecies.